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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/479,040	01/07/2000	MAURA C. CANNON	MOBT:212/KAM	2537

7590 11/18/2002
PATREA L. PABST
HOLLAND & KNIGHT, LLP
1201 WEST PEACHTREE STREET
SUITE 2000
ATLANTA, GA 30309-3400

EXAMINER

CHAKRABARTI, ARUN K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1634

DATE MAILED: 11/18/2002

95

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.
09/479,040

Applicant(s)
Cannon et al.

Examiner
Arun Chakrabarti

Art Unit
1634



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED Oct 29, 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid the abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

THE PERIOD FOR REPLY [check only a) or b)]

a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

(a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);

(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);

(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or

(d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____

4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See attached sheet.

6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7. ☐ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: _____

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

10. ☐ Other: _____

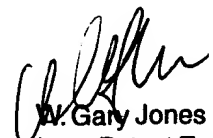
Applicant's arguments filed on October 29, 2002, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that 112 (first paragraph) rejection should be withdrawn because nucleic acid sequence having at least about 80 % homology to SEQ ID NO:8 will only form hydrogen bond with SEQ ID NO:8 to be in the correct spatial location, orientation, and have the correct charge and therefore will hybridize with SEQ ID NO:8.. This argument is not persuasive. First of all, hybridization is only intended use of the nucleic acid which is not given any further patentable weight and does not alter or modify the claimed product.

Secondly, with regard to the written description, all of these claims encompass nucleic acid sequences different from those disclosed in the specific SEQ ID No:s which include modifications permitted by the 80% language and by the hybridization or stringency language for which no written description is provided in the specification. Further, there is no description of portions of the nucleic acids. Further, these claims expressly encompass genomic nucleic acids and not even complete cDNA sequences have been provided.

Applicant also argues that the inquiry into adequate written description is not performed in a vacuum. This argument is not persuasive in absence of the alternative methods disclosed by the applicant how it is performed.

In view of the response to argument, all 112 (first paragraph) rejections are hereby being maintained.


W. Gary Jones
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center